

NOLAN CREEK

Next Steps for the Nolan Creek/South Nolan Creek Watershed

Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research
Stephenville, Texas

January 20, 2016



Next Steps

- Moving towards Watershed Protection Planning & Improvements

Nolan Creek at Backstrom Crossing
(station 11905) taken on May 21, 2015

Project -

Nolan Creek/South Nolan Creek Watershed Protection Plan (WPP)

Start Date: Mar 2016

End Date: Nov 2018

Major Project Tasks

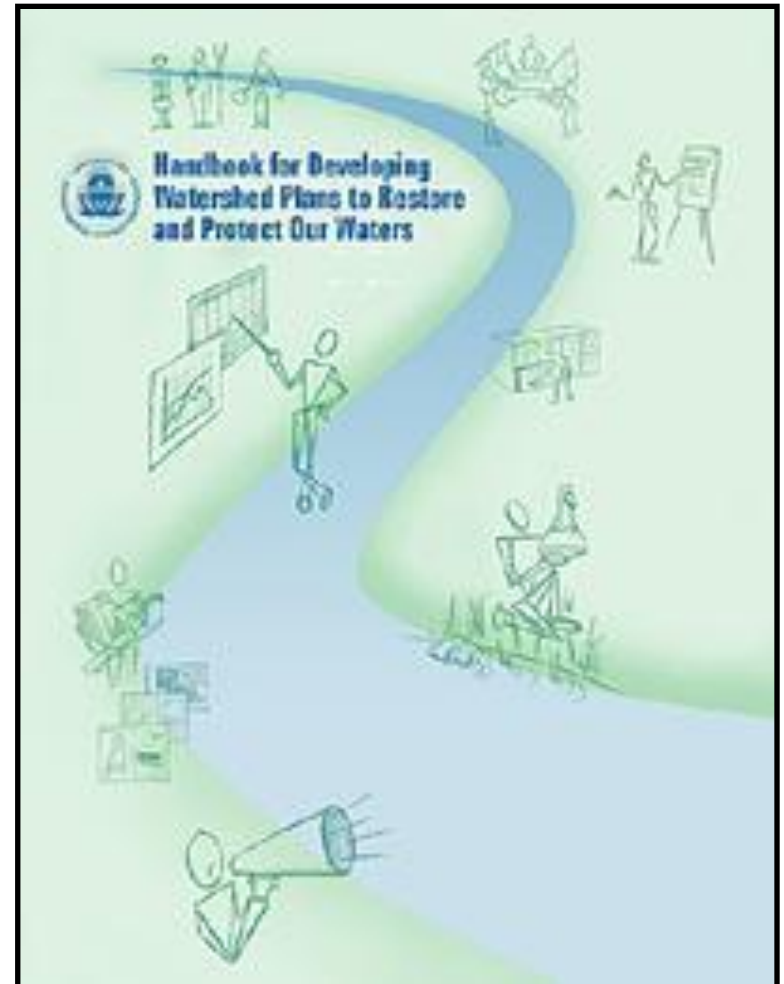
- **Development & Approval of a WPP**
 - Provide a management framework for addressing water quality issues within the Nolan Creek/South Nolan Creek watershed
- **Monitoring to Facilitate WPP Development**
 - Provide feedback on current conditions
 - Further aid in identifying sources spatially
 - Track trends in water quality

Watershed Protection Plan

- **Watershed Protection Plans**

- **Voluntary**
- **Stakeholder driven**
- **Embraces adaptive management focusing on NPS contributions**

Gives communities a way to restore water quality without regulatory action



Elements of a WPP

- a) Identification of pollutant sources**
- b) Estimates of needed load reductions**
- c) Description of management measures**
- d) Estimates of resources needed to implement plan**
- e) Education & outreach program**
- f) Implementation schedule for management measures**
- g) Interim, measurable milestones for implementation of management measures**
- h) Criteria for evaluating plan success**
- i) Monitoring to evaluate plan effectiveness**

Elements of a WPP

- a) Identification of pollutant causes & sources**
- b) Estimates of needed load reductions**
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Project Funding -

- EPA Clean Water Act 319(h) grant through TCEQ Nonpoint Source Program (\$300,000)



- Matching funds from TIAER (\$200,000)

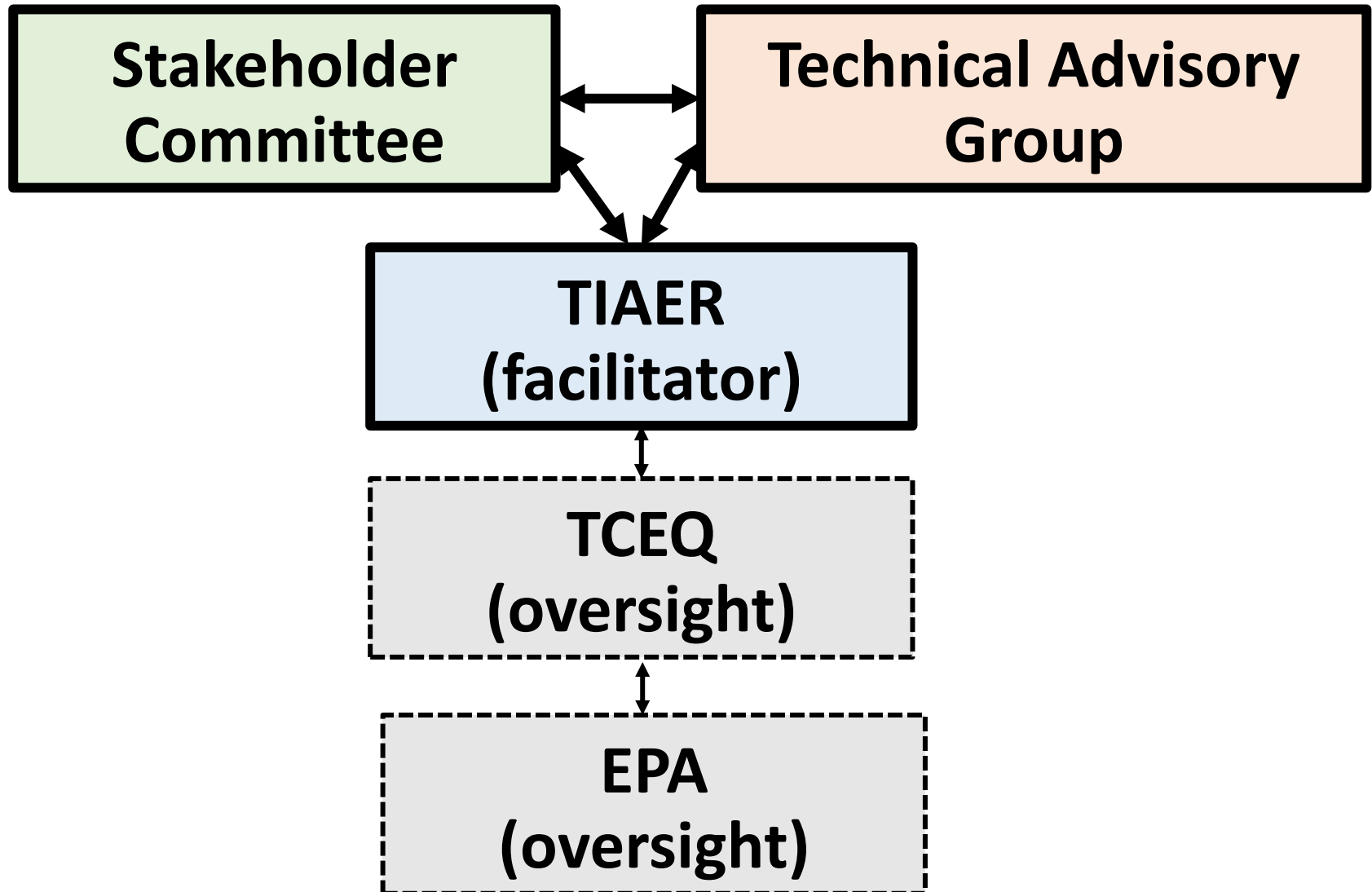


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- Total (\$300,000 + \$200,000 = \$500,000)

WPPs -

- **Provide a voluntary approach to restoration**
- **Help leverage resources for implementation**
- **Require coordination with a diversity of watershed partners**
- **Are adaptive allowing for modification**
- **Need volunteers to drive decision-making for planning & implementation**

Watershed Partnership Structure



Watershed Partnership Structure

Technical Advisory Group

- **Representatives from state & federal agencies that specialize in natural resources**
- **Provide general technical guidance**
- **Provide guidance to Stakeholder Group on specific topics, as requested**

Watershed Partnership Structure

Stakeholder Committee

- Local individuals who are affected or have the ability to assist with implementing decisions**
- Offer insights, suggestions and concerns from a community, environmental or public interest perspective**

Stakeholder Committee Responsibilities

- **Size – 10 to 20 members**
- **Attend meetings scheduled to accomplish specific milestones in the planning process**
 - Quarterly meetings over next 3 yrs, although may be more frequent if needed
- **Participate fully in group deliberations**
- **Offer insights, suggestions & concerns**
- **Work together to achieve consensus**

Stakeholder Committee

- **To be developed by March 2016**
- **Comprised of volunteers or recruited from area interest groups & organizations**
- **Names and affiliations of committee individuals will be made public**
- **All stakeholder committee meetings will be open to the public**

Stakeholder Committee

- Looking for volunteers, nominations & recommendations

Leah Taylor

Email: ltaylor@tiaer.tarleton.edu

Phone: (254) 968-0513

Anne McFarland

Email: mcfarla@tiaer.tarleton.edu

Office Phone: (254) 968-9581



Station 11908 South Nolan Creek at Nolanville Rd
taken on August 8, 2013